



State of California
The Natural Resources Agency
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

PROJECT TITLE	Wildwood Canyon Fuel Reduction Project		
PROJECT LOCATION	East of Yucaipa and west of Oak Glen Sec 4 and 5, T2S, R1W, SBBM and Sec 33, T1S, R1W, SBBM	COUNTY	SAN BERNARDINO
LEAD AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
CONTACT	San Bernardino Unit	PHONE	(909) 881-6900
ADDRESS	3800 N Sierra Way San Bernardino, CA 92405		

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Wildwood Canyon fuel break is located east of Yucaipa, CA and west of Oak Glen, CA. The area is primarily undeveloped with the southern portion of the fuel break being owned by California State Parks. There is one primary residence located within the project area. The main goals of the project are to (1.) Cooperate with private landowners to meet their goals as well the goals of the project, (2.) Limit the spread of wildfire, thus reducing the threat to life and property, (3.) Provide a safe means of ingress for firefighters and suppression equipment and a safe means of egress for the public, and (4.) Conduct project operations in such a manner as to protect the environmental and cultural values of the landscape.

The fuel break will be located along an existing dirt road. The treatments will be planned in such a manner as to avoid the straight-line boundaries and other strong linear configurations that tend to distract from the natural appearance of the landscape. Natural vegetative mosaics will be created to provide for a much more aesthetically pleasing fuel break. These methods will result in a reduction in the accumulation of heavy fuel and the elimination of dead and decadent brush. This will be accomplished by manual treatments that include the cutting or modifying of vegetation by hand tools (axes, pulaskis, chainsaws, etc.). Slash treatment will be accomplished by chipping the slash and leaving it on site. The completed fuels breaks will be a maximum of 300 feet wide, depending upon fuels and topography in the various locations.

EXEMPTION STATUS

- ☒ Categorical Exemption Type/Section: Class §15304 Minor Alterations to Land
☐ Statutory Exemption (state code section):
☐ Ministerial (§21080(b)(1); 15268)
☐ Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
☐ Emergency Project (§21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))

REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT

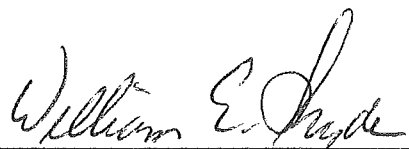
This project meets the requirements of a Class 4 Categorical Exemption, "15304. Minor Alterations to Land." "Class 4 consists of minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry or agricultural purposes."

The treatment area has been identified by CAL FIRE as being a strategic location to limit the spread of wildfire. Vegetation will be removed by hand crews using chainsaws. No mechanical treatment (i.e. mastication) or prescribed fire is planned. All slash generated by this project will be chipped on-site from existing road surfaces. No new roads will be constructed. Healthy, scenic, mature trees will be retained.

Field review by CAL FIRE staff confirmed that no exceptions apply which would preclude the use of a Notice of Exemption for this project. The Department has concluded that no significant environmental impact would occur to aesthetics, agriculture and forestland/timberland, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use planning, mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation/traffic, or to utilities

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING




William E. Snyder, Deputy Director Date 9/1/10
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection